

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Oil Fields

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

[Redacted Box] 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY : Poland
SUBJECT : Oil Fields in Poland

DATE: 14 April 1958

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Oil Fields in PolandPetroleum Industry

1. The petroleum industry in Poland was directly subordinate to the Central Administration of the Liquid Fuel Industry (Centralny Zarzad Przemyslu Paliw Plynnych) which in turn was subordinate to the Central Petroleum Office (Centralny Urzad Naftowy - CUN)¹. The chairman of the Central Petroleum Office was directly subordinate to the prime minister, and was himself a member of the Government Presidium (Rada Ministrow) in Warsaw. The Central Petroleum Office was on the same level as the government's various ministries, but since it was a smaller organization, it was not called a ministry. The Central Administration of Liquid Fuels, which until 1956 was headed by Engineer Zbigniew Drzewicki [redacted] controlled a number of district petroleum administrations; these administrations were generally located near oil fields and directly supervised the exploitation enterprises.
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2. The Central Petroleum Office also directly supervised the Design Bureau of the Petroleum Industry (Biuro Projektow Przemyslu Naftowego), located in Krakow on Ulica Lubicz. The bureau consisted of about 200 persons, including about 100 engineers. Its task consisted of outlining and planning the construction of refineries, pipelines, oil storage tanks, derricks, and other projects pertaining to the exploitation, storage, transportation and processing of oil. Also directly subordinate to the Central Petroleum Office was the Geological Enterprise of Petroleum Industry (Przedsiębiorstwo Geologiczne Przemysłu Naftowego) located in Krakow on Ulica Krupnicza. This organization consisted of about 600 personnel including approximately 40 geologists, 20 drilling engineers, and a number of drilling specialists, laborers, and administrative help. The primary mission of this organization was to search for new oil deposits.
3. Except for the destruction of a limited number of refineries, the petroleum industry did not suffer excessively from the effects of World War II. Refineries located in Marianpol, a suburb of Gorlice (N 49-40, E 21-10), and Trzebinia (N 50-10, E 19-29) were particularly badly damaged; however, the majority of all damaged refineries had been reconstructed and were again in operation by 1957. Following its reconstruction, the Trzebinia refinery was converted to the production of synthetic fuels, since following the annexation of Poland's eastern territories by the USSR, there were too many refineries

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for Poland's postwar petroleum production. These annexed eastern territories were by far Poland's richest in oil; prior to World War II, they had supplied about 50 percent of Poland's total petroleum consumption.

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Oil Fields in Southeastern Poland

4. In 1957, Poland's oil fields supplied only about 10 percent of the country's total petroleum consumption. Although, since 1946, these fields had been under constant development, it was doubtful that their production would ever be increased because, as new wells were being drilled, older wells were slowly being exhausted. Poland's 1957 oil reserve would not last much longer than 15 to 20 years at the 1957 rate of exploitation. The total of oil derricks in Poland amounted to about 600 or 700, all of which were wooden. Approximately 200 of these were constructed after World War II. Since 1954, about 20 to 25 new derricks had been constructed annually. All derricks were located in one general area in southeastern Poland, extending from the Soviet border west to Limanowa (N 49-42, E 20-26), along the Czechoslovak border to the south, and roughly bordered to the north by the following cities: Przemysl (N 49-47, E 22-47), Brzozow (N 49-42, E 22-01), Krosno (N 49-41, E 21-47), and Jaslo (N 49-45, E 21-28). Contrary to the average oil field, where a certain number of derricks were generally concentrated in one particular area, here they were scattered, sometimes only a few meters apart, but more frequently a few hundred meters apart, and at times even several kilometers from each other. A slight concentration of derricks did exist around the towns of Krosno, Jaslo and in the Ustrzyki Dolne (N 49-26, E 22-35) area nearest the Soviet border, where the oil fields were slightly richer. This last area however, had also been surrendered to the Soviets after World War II and was not returned to Poland until 1952. During the years these oil fields were in Soviet possession, they were practically pumped dry.
5. Almost all oil produced in Poland had to be pumped. Free flowing wells were virtually non-existent. The majority of all drilling equipment was of the cable tool type; rotary equipment was seldom used. Wells had an average depth of about 1,200 to 1,500 meters.
6. Figure 1 on page 7 is an overlay [redacted] 1:1,000,000, (Central Carpathians), showing the location of oil fields in southeastern Poland. Numbers in parentheses below refer to corresponding numbers on the overlay:

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- (1) Oil Field Area.
- (2) Limanowa (N 49-42, E 20-26) - a town of approximately 3,000 inhabitants. A refinery was located here.
- (3) Oil Field Area.
- (4) Jaslo (N 49-45, E 21-28) - a town of about 8,000 inhabitants. It was completely destroyed during World War II and only partially reconstructed. Its prewar population had been about 20,000. A refinery was located here.
- (5) Krosno (N 49-41, E 21-47) - a town of about 10,000 people. A refinery was also located here.
- (6) Polish-Soviet Border.
- (7) Ustrzyki Dolne (N 49-26, E 22-35) - a locality of approximately 1,000 inhabitants. It had a refinery prior to World War II. [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
- (8) Surrendered Territories - which were surrendered to the Soviets after World War II. In 1952, they were returned to Poland.
- (9) Polish-Czechoslovak Border.

Natural Gas Fields

7. Beginning with 1950, a series of geological surveys were conducted in search of new oil deposits in the area of Skoczow (N 49-48, E 18-48). No oil was found, but in 1953 rich natural gas deposits were discovered. Construction of pipelines, pipeline terminals, and storage stations was to begin in 1958. These gas fields were to supply eventually the entire Silesian province. In 1957, the fields were equipped with about five wooden derricks. [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

8. Figure 2 on page 8 is an overlay [REDACTED]
Scale 1:100,000 [REDACTED] Rybnik. Numbers in parentheses below refer to corresponding numbers on the overlay:

- (1) Wisla River - approximately four meters wide in this area.
- (2) Highway - partially asphalt and partially cobblestone, about six meters wide, and in excellent condition. It led north to Rybnik (N 50-07, E 18-32) and south to Milowka (N 49-34, E 19-05).

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- (3) Skoczow (N 49-48, E 18-48) - a town of about 15,000 inhabitants.
- (4) Highway - approximately six meters wide, with a partially cobblestone and partially asphalt surface, and in excellent condition. It led east to Bielsko-Biala (N 49-49, E 19-02) and west to Cieszyn (N 49-46, E 18-36).
- (5) Natural Gas Fields.

Possible New Oil Fields

9. Beginning in 1953, a series of geological surveys were conducted in the Inowroclaw (N 52-48, E 18-16) area. During 1955, large salt deposits were discovered, and at a depth of about 2,000 meters, traces of oil were also found. Although several of the country's top geologists and petroleum experts, among them professors Stanislaw Krajewski of the Krakow Mining Academy and Jozef Zwierzyccki of the University of Wroclaw

[redacted] 50X1-HUM
and Adam Dudek, chief of the geological survey department at the Central Administration of Geological Surveys in Katowice, were convinced that this area had extremely rich oil deposits and that further surveys should be conducted. No action was taken by the government, and beginning in 1959, salt was to be mined instead. This negative attitude on the part of the government was attributed to the lack of funds necessary for the purchase of adequate drilling equipment and for the maintenance of surveying crews. The lack of cooperation between government officials and geologists and differences of opinions between certain geologists, themselves, also contributed to the government's negative attitude.

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] further surveys would be conducted in the near future.

10. Figure 3 on page 9 is an overlay [redacted] Scale 1:1,000,000, [redacted] 25X1
(Gulf of Danzig), showing the location of possible new oil fields. Numbers in parentheses below refer to corresponding numbers on the overlay.

- (1) Bydgoszcz (N 53-09, E 18-00).
- (2) Wisla River.

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(1-0-N-F-L-D-E-N-T-I-A-L
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- (3) Torus (N 59-02, E 18-36).
- (4) Salt Deposits Area (possible future oil fields).
- (5) Inowroclaw (N 52-43, E 18-16).

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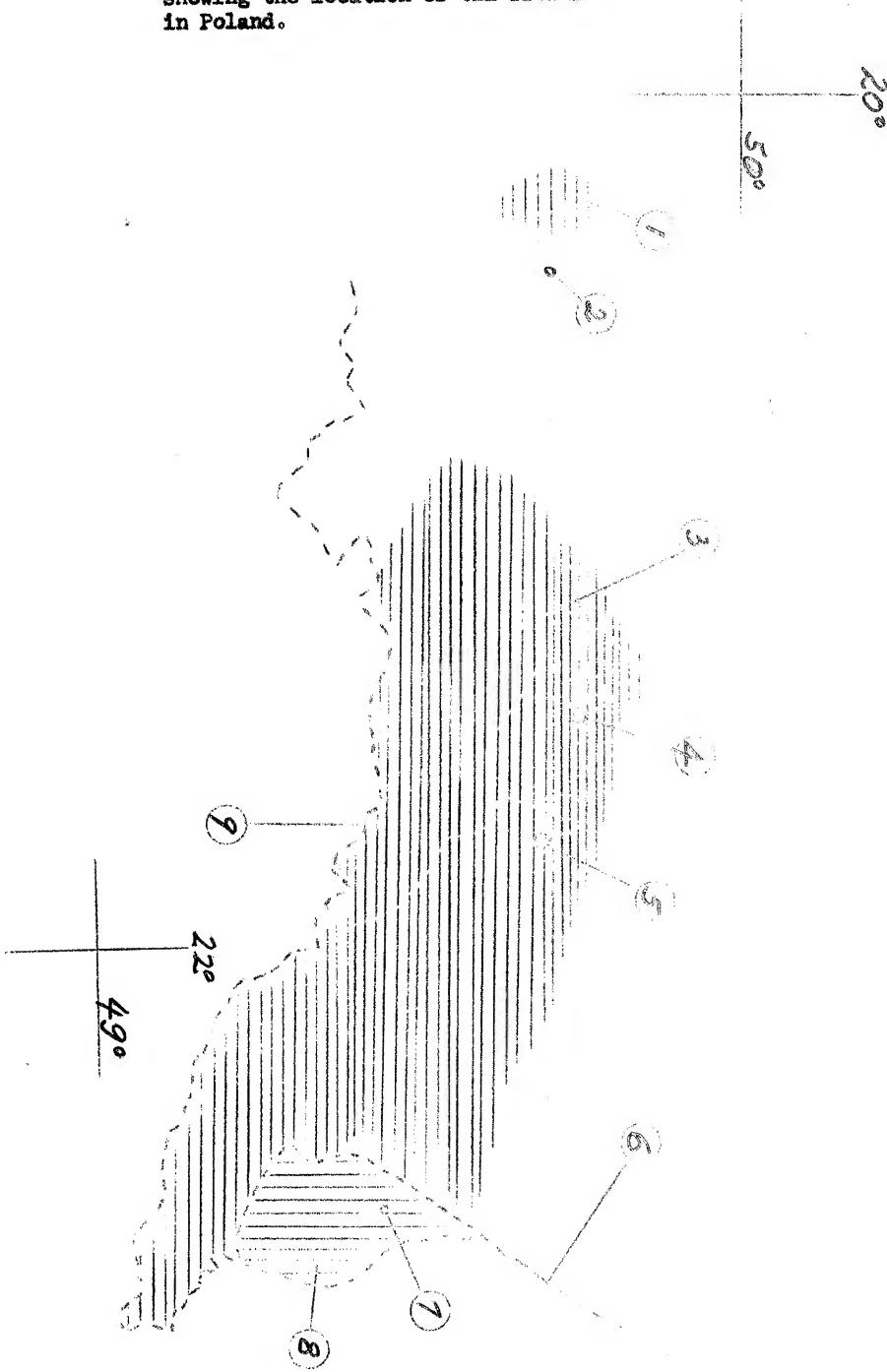
(1-0-N-F-L-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C=O=N=R-I-D-E-N-T-C-A-L

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FIGURE 1: Overlay [redacted] Scale 1:1,000,000
[redacted] Central Carpathians),
showing the location of oil fields
in Poland.

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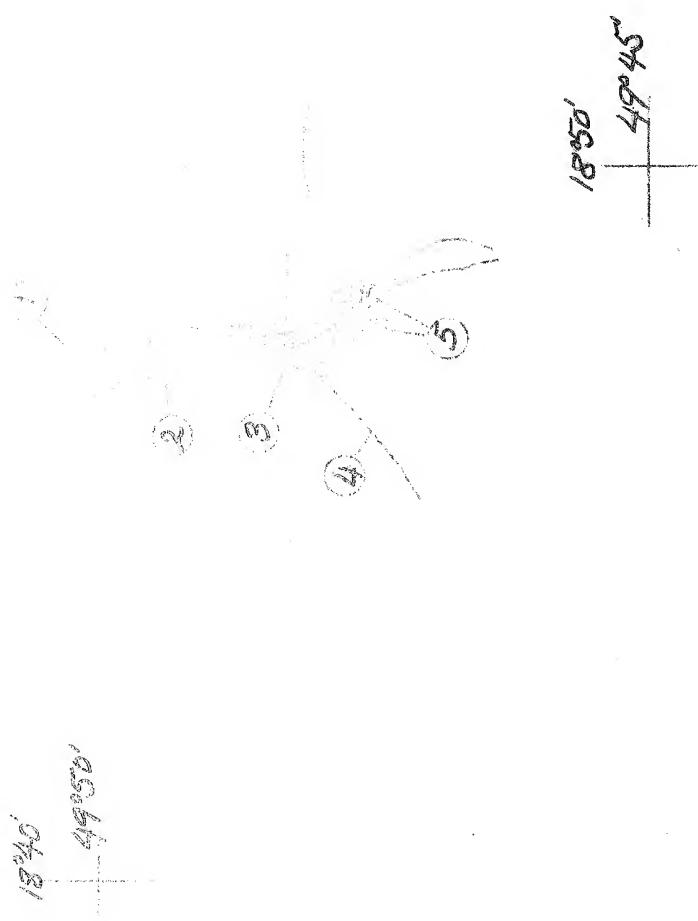


C=O=N=F-I-D-E-N-T-C-A-L

C...O...N...E...P...L...D...E...N...T...A...L
...G...Y...

FIGURE 22 Overlay [redacted]
Scale 1:300,000 [redacted]
Rybnik, pinpointing the location
of natural gas fields in Poland.

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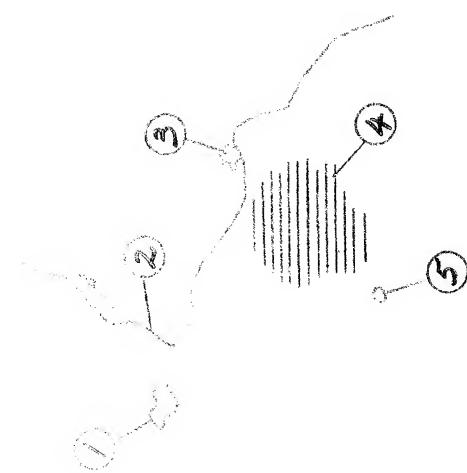
C...O...N...E...P...L...D...E...N...T...A...L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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FIGURE 3: Overlay [redacted]
Scale 1:1,000,000
(Gulf of Danzig), pinpointing the
location of suspected oil deposits
in Poland.

52°30'
20°
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53°
17°

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L